

ATTACHMENT VIII-C

ATTACHMENT VIII-C:	Overnight Field Trip Request to Costa Rica
Suggested Motion:	Move to approve the Spanish Club trip to Costa Rica
Recommended Action:	Approve as presented

Students and a chaperone will travel to Costa Rica in June 2018 to experience the Spanish culture. World Strides tours will coordinate the trip, including flights and buses. Students will raise their own funds. The trip will be chaperoned by Jason Geiger.

# Overnight Field Trip Request

(Requests must be made 60 days in advance.)

Class / Organization: ~~PKHS~~ NBHS School: NBHS

Date(s) of the trip: June 2018

Destination: COSTA RICA

Number of students attending: TBA Male: Female:

Chaperones (list each name): JASON GELBERT

Mode of transportation: VARIOUS - Fly to Costa Rica  
Bus in country

Overnight Accommodations: HOTELS

Explain how costs are being met: Student pays fundraiser

Is a trip planner being used: yes If yes, give name and experience: WORLD STRIDES

Please attach a detailed itinerary / objectives for visiting each sight: (Use additional paper if needed)

Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/27/2017  
Principal's approval: [Signature] Date: 11/7/17  
Superintendent's approval: Date:  
Board approval: Date:

Please attach any necessary information for clarification purposes.  
This form may be more restrictive than policy.



**Application for Approval**  
**Costa Rica, Summer 2019**  
**Mr. Jason M. Geiger**  
**Submitted: 01/28/2017; resubmitted 11/07/2017**

Greetings-

I am very excited to provide our students the opportunity to travel abroad. This will be my second and third trips for North Boone High School students (Spain, 2017) and look forward to sharing these experiences with them.

Considering the current uncertainty of United States politics abroad, I have decided against trips to Europe for 2019. Instead, I plan to keep students on the American side of the world. I will be promoting a trip to Costa Rica for our Spanish students, but any student may apply. I believe I have selected a trip that is cost-efficient, making sure students will see and have the essential cultural experiences as well as have some unique experiences, among a number of other activities. In addition, I looked for trips that mirror the cultural material taught in the Spanish classes.

I considered three travel companies for these trips, all of whom I have used for travel: EF Tours, ACIS and World Strides. EF tours was selected by the previous Spanish teachers for the Costa Rica (2015) and Spanish (2017) trips. I selected World Strides over the other two because I believe their educational activities programming is far superior to EF, their hotel locations are “city center” (whereas EF hotels are always a bit out of the way) giving more opportunities for authentic experiences and their travel logistics while in-country do not take away from time available for activities. The rationale is that I want the students to “do” things, not just “see” them. World Strides offered more “bang for the buck”, weighing the experiences offers v. the daily cost when compared to ACIS.

Consideration for these trips is never based upon the number of students who enroll (I never threaten to cancel a trip if numbers are low). If students want to travel, I am happy to take them.

Please let me know when this trip will be on the Board agenda. With swift Board approval, students will be able to register promptly, take advantage of early enrollment discounts, and we will be able to start our fundraising efforts.

Thank you again for your consideration,

Jason Geiger

## Costa Rica

### **Travel Arrangements**

Travel for this tour of Costa Rica arranged through World Strides.

### **General Itinerary**

Proposed date of departure: June 12, 2019.

#### World Strides- Pura Vida

- |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day 1 | Flight to San Jose; orientation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flight to San Jose</li><li>• Hotel check-in, informal tour and tour orientation.</li><li>• Overnight in San Jose.</li></ul> |
| Day 2 | Poas Volcano National Park and Arenal Hot Springs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hike the Poas.</li><li>• Soak in the Arenal Springs.</li><li>• Overnight in Arenal.</li></ul>              |
| Day 3 | Travel day to Monteverde <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Night tour</li><li>• Overnight in Monteverde</li></ul>                                                                              |
| Day 4 | Monteverde <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Walking tour of the cloud forest.</li><li>• Ziplining the cloud forest canopy.</li><li>• LEAP Cocina Tica (cooking class)</li></ul>               |
| Day 5 | Travel day to Manuel Antonio <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LEAP School Visit</li><li>• Overnight in Manuel Antonio</li></ul>                                                               |
| Day 6 | Manuel Antonio <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manuel Antonio National Park</li><li>• Overnight in Manuel Antonio</li></ul>                                                                  |
| Day 7 | Travel Day to San Jose <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LEAP Ox Cart Crafts (art class)</li><li>• LEAP El Torito (dance class)</li><li>• Overnight in San Jose</li></ul>                      |
| Day 8 | Reventazon <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Whitewater rafting the Reventazon River</li><li>• Overnight in San Jose</li></ul>                                                                 |
| Day 9 | Return to the United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flight home.</li></ul>                                                                                                           |

### **Significance**

- **Costa Rica**- This Central American country was first populated by indigenous people, but came under the rule of the Spanish Empire in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Spanish is the predominate language, but English is also spoken, particularly in

tourist areas. NBHS Spanish students are not anticipated to have issues interacting in the Spanish language (or English language) while on tour.

- **San Jose-** The capital of Costa Rica and the nation's largest city.
- **Poas Volcano National Park-** The Poas is considered an active volcano, with the last major eruption in 2009. There are two craters: one is active; the other is a lake (inactive).
- **Arenal hot springs-** Due to the Arenal Volcano's geothermal activity, there are a number of natural hot springs resorts throughout the area.
- **Monteverde Reserve-** The Reserve consists of 6 ecological zones, with extremely high biodiversity, consisting of over 2,500 plant species (including the most orchid species in a single place), 100 species of mammals, 400 bird species, 120 reptilian and amphibian species, and thousands of insects.
- **Manuel Antonio National Park-** In 2011, Manuel Antonio was listed by Forbes among the world's 12 most beautiful national parks.
- **Renvetazon River-** A water adventure through the Braulio Carrillo National Park.

#### **NETC LEAP activities.**

**Students will be fully engaged as active learners in creative, thought-provoking activities, including:**

- **Cocina Tica-** Cook Costa Rican style! Create authentic local foods and sit down to savor your delicious creations.
- **Costa Rica School Visit-** Visit a Costa Rican school to meet local students, practice Spanish and see the differences between schools there and schools at home
- **Ox Cart Crafts-** A local artisan introduces you to the origins of traditional Costa Rican craftmaking, such as Ox Cart painting. Try your own hand at painting and take home your art as a souvenir.
- **Dance the El Torito!-** Costumed Costa Rican folklore dancers teach you the El Torito, as well as other traditional dances. After your lesson, relax and watch the pros perform.

#### **Educational Objectives aligned with IL State Goals.**

- **IL State Goal 28: Use the target language (Spanish) to communicate within and beyond the classroom setting.**
  - Given this trip, the student will have the opportunity to enhance their classroom-acquired skills in language and culture knowledge through speaking with Spaniards in a variety of real-life situations.
  - Given this trip, the student will acquire a greater understanding of the different Spanish-language dialects.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn and compare and contrast the language nuances of Spanish spoken in the United States (Mexican, Spanish) and Central America.

- **IL State Goal 29: Use the target language (Spanish) to develop an understanding of the customs, arts, literature, history, and geography associated with the target language.**
  - Given this trip, the student will acquire a greater understanding of contemporary Spanish-speaking societies by being totally immersed in the Costa Rican language and culture.
  - Given this trip, the student will acquire a greater understanding of the history of Spain in the Americas.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn the about the geography of Costa Rica.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn about different types of tropical ecosystems.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn how to cook authentic Costa Rican food.
  - Given this trip, the student will be introduced to indigenous crafts.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn a traditional Costa Rican dance.
  
- **IL State Goal 30: Use Spanish to make connections and reinforce knowledge and skills across academic, vocational, and technical disciplines.**
  - Given this trip, the student will acquire a greater understanding of other’s perspective of the “world view.”
  - Given this trip, the student will be able to apply his or her Spanish language skills to amplify content and skills learned in economics, mathematics, science, physical development, health, career exploration and vocational classes.
  - Given this trip, the student will be able to use technology set at Spanish settings.
  - Given this trip, the student will learn about eco-tourism.

**Proposed Budget**

**World Strides: \$3328 (as of 11/07/2017) per student.**

**World Strides supplies- Round-trip airfare; in-country transportation; three/ four star hotels in safe, central locations; two meals daily (breakfast and dinner); 24/7 tour director; local guides; scheduled sightseeing activities and entrance fees; LEAP! Activities; travel insurance and emergency service; EZpay Plan (no interest).**

**Trip does not include:**

<b>Passport</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<b>Travel (RKFD-O’Hare)</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>Tips</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>Spending money</b>	<b>\$300 (\$30/day recommended)</b>

**Extra activities:**

Opportunities may arise that are not on the itinerary, not covered by the World Strides tuition, and travelers are given a choice to participate or not.

In addition, I occasionally plan activities during scheduled free periods. In general, I “gift” these activities to my travelers.

Student will also need- medium-size suitcase.

**Prerequisites**

- Student must want to use his or her Spanish communication skills.
- Student must be 15 years old at time of travel.
- Student must successfully complete Spanish 2 with a least a solid ‘C’.
- Student must not have any questionable behavioral issues (i.e. suspensions) during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years.
- Student must not earn more than three tardies during the 2018-2019 school year.

**\*Non-Spanish students are welcome to travel, but preference for travel spots will be given to Spanish students first. Non-Spanish students will be paired with a Spanish student.**

**Estimated Number of Participants**

10-20. Max at 20.

**Chaperones****Chaperones at 1:10**

- Lead- Jason Geiger
- Second- Mathilde Gleizes

**Other**

World Strides notifications including insurance, protections, liabilities, and legal releases will be made available once permission is granted to organize this trip.